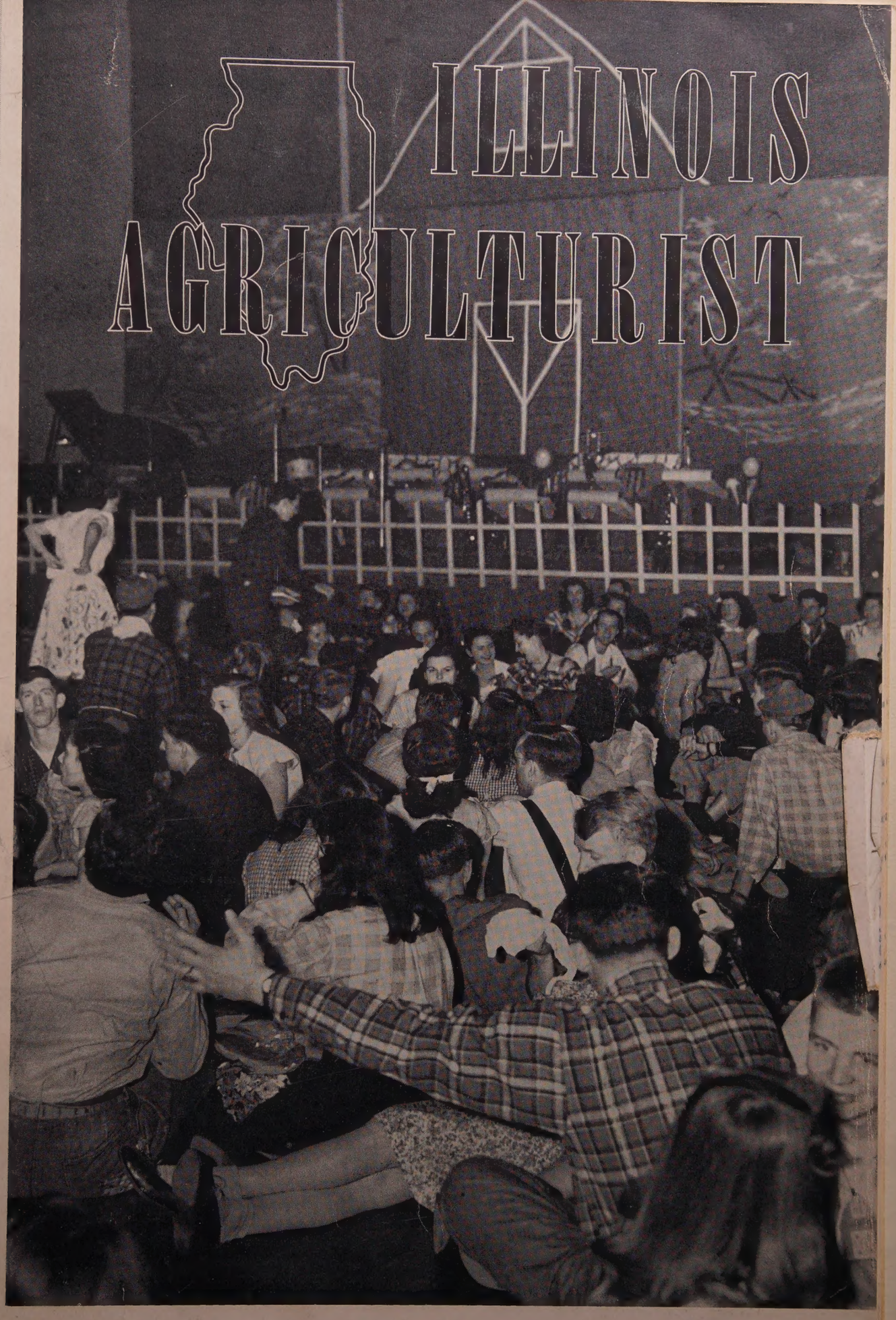
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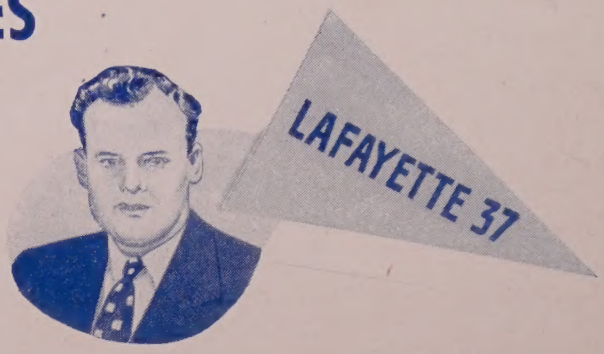


Campus to GENERAL ELECTRIC

TOMORROW'S APPLIANCES

The Story of

JIM YOUNG



THE General Electric refrigerators, ranges, washers and other appliances that homemakers will be buyng in 1950 are already under development. James F. Young, ten years out of Lafayette College's mechanical engineering school, supervises the engineering of these appliances-to-come.

Jim, graduating magna cum laude, chose General Electric's job offer over others because, as he says, "G.E. offered more different fields of engineering, had a better program than any other company, and could provide better experience."

The varied experience that Jim sought came to him fast. While on "Test" with G.E., he worked in four different plants and at six different assignments, ranging from supercharger tests to studies in unbalance of hydraulic systems. Following "Test" he enrolled in the G-E Creative Engineering Program and drew five assignments in laboratories and design departments.

When he had completed the course he was appointed supervisor of it. While organizing this course and lecturing to the class, he studied another—the C course in mechanical engineering. He also wrote and edited "Materials and Processes," published in 1944.

His first "real work," he says, was in helping to develop large-size rocket launchers, both airborne and land types. The creative engineering ability he showed on this assignment, and on later problems, insured his steady progress to the top of the Advance Engineering Section of his company's Appliance and Merchandise Dept.

Next to schools and the U.S. Government, General Electric employs more college engineering graduates than any other organization.



Jim became interested in mechanical problems early. In his teens he found a hobby in rebuilding old autos.



As an early job with G.E. he organized and taught engineering courses, became supervisor of all mechanical engineering training.



During the war he helped develop the airborne rocket launcher, important factor in smashing Nazi armor. A second war job: development of gyroscopes for torpedoes.



Today Jim supervises the engineering of G-E household appliances to be marketed two to five years from now. He still directs the training of many new engineers.

GENERAL ELECTRIC

Illinois U Library

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AN EDITORIAL . . .

Illinois leads the nation in number of school districts! According to the U. S. Office of Education Bulletin, Number 2, 1941, Illinois maintains 11,975 school districts, Missouri ranks second with 8,764, and the remaining states range in numbers down to Delaware which has only 15.

All of us are rightly proud that our state leads or ranks high in many varied fields of agriculture industry and culture—this leadership in number of school districts however, is not a thing of which we can be proud. Only a hasty perusal of a publication of our extension service, "A Guide to the Study of Rural School Reorganization," by D. E. Lindstrom, professor of rural sociology, is sufficient to support this statement.

Some of the facts which this bulletin points out are these: The number of school-age children in rural areas is declining—in 1940, this number was less than half of what it was in 1890. Reasons for this great decline are that farm families are getting smaller, and that Illinois farms are getting larger and fewer. As a direct result of this decline in number of school-age children, most rural schools are too small.

Experience has shown that 20 to 25 pupils per teacher are a much better and more economical number. In 1945, more than three-fourths of the one-room schools in Illinois had fewer than 15 pupils. With so few pupils in a school, as many as half of the children in one-room schools in some counties had no classmates in 1945. Psychologists believe that this can be a serious drawback in normal personality formation.

Most high schools in the state are too small. To provide what is generally considered by many authorities as the fewest teachers and children for a good high school (seven teachers and an average of 30 pupils per teacher) would require not less than 210 pupils per school. Over five-sixths of the rural high schools in Illinois fell below this figure in 1941-42.

Many rural children are denied a high school education. In 1940, according to the census, 97 per cent of the Illinois farm children aged 7 to 13 inclusive were attending school. Of the 16- and 17-year-olds, however, only 58 per cent were in schools, compared with 77 per cent of all children of the state.

There are many other startling facts presented in the bulletin mentioned above, but space does not allow listing all of them. Those which have been noted are sufficient to present the vital need of reorganization of our school districts in order to make a higher standard available to the children in our rural areas.

This problem is one that is, or should be, of concern to us as students in the college of agriculture. Many of us were reared in areas where the inefficient and often poorly staffed small high school and the small one-room country school have the responsibility of educating a large proportion of the rural population for modern living. More important to many of us is the consideration that we shall be living and rearing families in these same rural areas, where schools designed for living in the 1880s still prevail.

Our rural school system was adapted to the needs of the rural people at a time now long past. Sociological and cultural changes have now outmoded much of this system. There are advantages such as proximity, associated with the neighborhood school, but when placed in the balance with the higher educational achievement possible in the consolidated type of school, they are found wanting.

The recommended system of reorganization is to form larger administrative units which provide for a large community school system. Such a district run by a single school board will provide as many schools or attendance units as are needed to take care of elementary and high school pupils. This system is preferred now to any other because it means maintaining district boundaries and giving time for changes in attendance units. This system will not close any school really needed, but will lay a basis for the modern school of the future.

The task of school reorganization under present legislation rests on the shoulders of those people who want to see changes. By soliciting the support of progressive people in his locale and securing aid which our extension service offers, one well-informed person can start a movement which may culminate in the establishment of better opportunities for the children of his community.

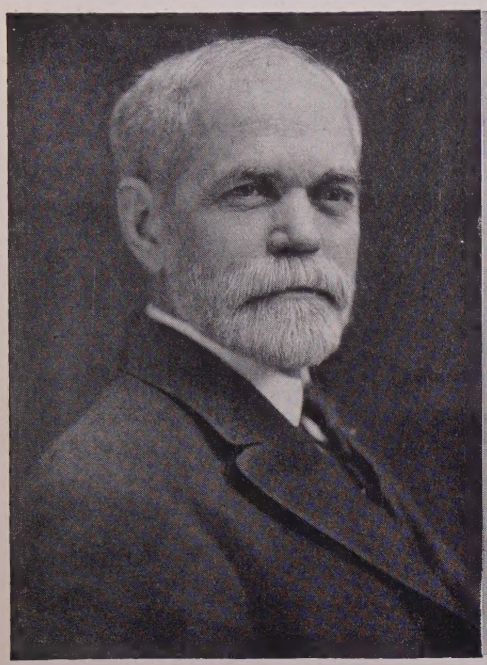
An endeavor which extends such bounteous rewards is worth our individual consideration.—K. R. K.

OUR COVER . . .

Enthusiastic dancers at Plowboy Prom eat box lunches during intermission.—Photo by Chuck Scott

Honoring Three Agricultural Leaders

By Julia Ruth Stahl and Harold Guither



EUGENE DAVENPORT



ISABEL BEVIER



HERBERT W. MUMFORD

Tribute to three great agricultural leaders of Illinois was heard on Thursday, April 17, when three agriculture college buildings were named in honor of Eugene Davenport, Isabel Bevier, and Herbert Mumford. W. L. Burlison, head of the department of agronomy, presided at the ceremonies.

Elmer Roberts, professor of animal genetics, spoke on the work and service of Eugene Davenport for whom the old agriculture building has been named.

He had a long record of service to the University, serving as dean of the college of agriculture and director of the agricultural experiment station from 1895 to 1922. Dean Davenport was also director of extension from 1914 to 1922 and vice-president of the University of Illinois from 1920 to 1922.

Davenport came to Illinois when much of the richest farm land of the state was still covered with wild prairie grass and by weight of his ability assumed the agricultural leadership of the state. More than any other man, he contributed to clear thinking and sound practice during the years when Illinois agriculture was passing from pioneer beginnings to procedures based on scientific information.

During his period of service, the college of agriculture grew from five students and three faculty members to 1,200 students and 175 faculty members. The experiment station income has increased from $15,000 per year to $425,353.

To Dean Davenport is due the major credit for the closely knit and effective organization of the college of agriculture, the experiment station, and the extension service at the University of Illinois. During his administrative years, he exercised rare judgment in selection of men and women for positions on the staff, and then with great insight and patience gave every staff member his fullest confidence and untiring support.

His broad knowledge of agriculture, his sound judgment, his unquestioned sincerity, and his fine human qualities made him a great leader who was admired and loved by all who knew him.

Not only was Dean Davenport outstanding in service to Illinois but he was also recognized as a representative of mid-west agricultural leadership. He became a well-known author on agricultural topics and was a favorite speaker at public meetings.

He served in many positions in the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities. He encouraged many agricultural policies which have been a great benefit to agricultural education and which have been a great benefit to agricultural education and research, and the advancement of American country life.

Isabel Bevier

Speaking in honor of Isabel Bevier, for whom the Woman's building has been named, Miss J. Lita Bane head of the home economics department told of her intimate acquaintance with Miss Bevier, first as a teacher, then as departmental head, and later as a retired professor.

In 1900, President Draper called Miss Bevier to the University of Illinois to establish a "household science" department. Her first graduating class in 1903 consisted of three young women. In her last class in 1921 there were 64 graduates.

Miss Bevier stood out prominently for her scholarly standards, being consistently unwilling to offer college courses devoted almost entirely to skills, unwilling to mortgage the student's time with specialized home economics subjects to the point where courses in history, economics, literature, and art were crowded out, always standing for a liberal college course with a major only in home economics. Thus she was able to relate this subject matter to other important fields.

About her the late Dr. Lafayette B. Mendel of Yale University said, "Miss Bevier belonged to that important group of American women trained in an atmosphere of science, who ventured to give directions to the new home economics movement in a modern constructive way. She was one of the pioneers who endeavored to translate current scientific research into the language of everyday life. This called for courage in the face of traditional resistance to change, for vision and faith in what seemed to be unwarranted innovation and for real leadership."

Miss Bevier's high courage, great tolerance, and keen insight were illumined by a quick and kindly humor. She was distinguished for the superiority of her intellect, the accuracy of her judgment,

the fine flavor of her words, and the greatness of her generosity and kindliness.

Although she is best known for her 21 years' service as head of the department of home economics at the University of Illinois, Miss Bevier had her part in building up the professional organization, the American Home Economics association. She had many other activities, most of them closely allied to her chosen field, notably her contribution to the work of the Food administration during World War I, her membership on important educational committees, and in honorary and professional organizations.

Herbert W. Mumford

Speaking in tribute to Herbert Mumford was H. P. Rusk, dean of the college of agriculture. "In renaming the new agriculture building Mumford hall, we commemorate the life work of a man whose canny insight into approaching problems of agriculture, as well as his ability to strike directly at the heart of problems everybody recognized, commanded respect and confidence of his colleagues and an everwidening circle of agricultural research workers . . . By sheer ability, hard work, courage, and steadfast devotion to a high purpose, Dean Herbert Winsor Mumford made an outstanding contribution to the University of Illinois and to better agriculture."

Serving as professor of animal husbandry from 1901 to 1922, Mumford was then appointed dean of the college of agriculture and director of the agricultural experiment station and extension service until his death in 1938. His courage and sound judgment led to the establishment of a strong department of agricultural economics and his interest in, and encouragement of, the application of economics to agricultural problems was one of his outstanding contributions to Illinois agriculture. He once said, "the market will go to the farmers who can supply it most economically."

While blazing new trails for research, Dean Mumford was always concerned with things as they were. Believing there was always room for improvement, he was constantly attempting to improve the effectiveness of the teaching program. "A college faculty cannot hope to hold its position of leadership and mould an intelligent public opinion unless it has the zeal and enthusiasm of the investigator . . . If we were as open-minded in studying the life history of our students after commencement day as we are the life history of creeping and crawling things we would make more rapid progress in education."

In all his relations he constantly grew in vision and comprehension of the service which the University could and should render to the people of the state and he never lacked the courage to act when he could perform useful service.

In renaming three agricultural buildings, the names of three past leaders are remembered by students of today. Davenport is outstanding for his agricultural leadership during a period of changing ideas; Miss Bevier is remembered for her contribution to the art of home making, and Mumford for his vision and courage which led the college, the experiment station, and the extension service to greater service when public support suggested satisfaction with the status quo. "These three names are landmarks on the road to better living and to an appreciation of the fact that a true measure of the culture of a people includes all their cultivated traits, skills, and knowledge of whatever sort, and their application to the art of living."

Coeds Dress for Classes and Class

With the fashions of the University of Illinois campus following the 1947 spring styles of the country, instructors teaching classes in sewing and design are following the latest fashion whims.

Dressmaker suits are in vogue with softer shoulders and less padding. Characteristic in dresses are full sleeves and draping. In spite of 1946 protests, skirts are getting longer with bustle effects and rounded hip lines. The new spring fashions also feature longer fitted torsos.



Garment Styled in Home Ec 30

Several interesting courses are taught at the U. of I. which help the student familiarize herself with principles of sewing and design. Home economics 29a offers a basic course in fashion and wardrobes, while 29b gives fundamental instructions in sewing. Here the girls construct dresses and suits from commercial patterns.

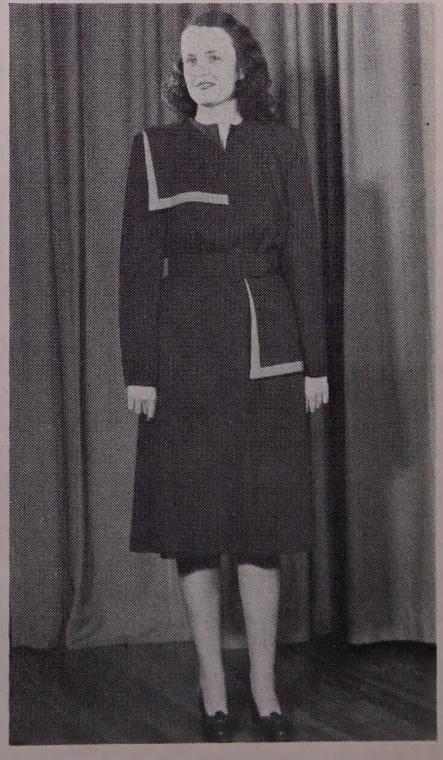
A fundamental design course, home economics 19, includes personal figure and color analysis. Through this study the girl designs a wardrobe based on the observations of her figure and color type. Although no actual construction is done, this analysis serves as a guide for the student's personal wardrobe.

Designs which range from the days of Cleopatra to the 20th century are studied in home economics 42. This interpretation of History of Costume serves as inspiration for designing in later courses. These fundamental courses are prerequisites for the advanced clothing and design classes.

In home economics 30 the girls draft a block or foundation pattern from their own measurements. From these basic patterns, they prepare the tissue pattern for the designs which they have created. The final step is to cut and sew the garment.

Kitchen utensils, historic costumes, and nature often serve as inspiration for the designs in home economics 31, a class in

(Continued on Page 16)



Home Ec 30 Original Creation

Forests of Illinois as a Basic Resource

By J. NELSON SPAETH
Head of Department of Forestry

We have just completed an inventory of the forest resources of Illinois in which the agricultural experiment station and other agencies concerned with forestry in the state cooperated with the American Forestry association. The station has made a special study of the forest situation in 16 counties of southern Illinois. These surveys revealed that we have more than 3,100,000 acres of woodland on farms. The present volume of standing timber is nearly 10 billion board feet, more than half of which is oak. The kinds of trees which will grow in our woodlands are among the most valuable—walnut, white oak, tulip tree, red oak, linn or basswood, ash, maple, and many others. But we also have markets for the species of lesser value. In fact, the market for Illinois farm timber has been expanding and production has been increasing. There has been a steady gain in production since 1932, when we hit an all-time low of eight million board feet. In 1944 we cut 102 million board feet, but in 1945, in spite of all the difficulties in securing labor, tires, trucks, and other equipment, Illinois sawmills produced 121 million board feet of timber, the greatest volume in 33 years, that is, the largest amount of lumber cut in one year since 1912. The increase continued and in 1946 Illinois cut approximately 167 million board feet of lumber. But lumber is not all that came from our woodland. There were posts and firewood and feltwood and pulpwood and mine props.

In spite of the large volume of timber sold off the farm, the farmer may have been his own best customer for products of the farm woods. Certainly several million fence posts and nearly a million cords of firewood were cut and used on the farm. The farmer may also be his own best customer for lumber. He may have a mill representation come and saw out material for a barn or crib, or even a dwelling, or he may take logs to a mill for custom-sawing and bring back the lumber. The bill for sawing will be only a quarter or a fifth the value of lumber he brings back. A new delevolpement is an all-steel, fully portable sawmill unit mounted on pneumatic tires which can be brought to the farm as a trailer in the morning, put in operation in half an hour, saw out three or four thousand feet of lumber from logs which the farmer has ready, and move on to another farm at noon. The possibilities of labor-saving devices are astonishing.

There are many makes of power saws for felling trees and bucking up logs and cordwood: The use of two-man power chain saws is increasing rapidly; there are one-man chain saws for smaller jobs, tractor-mounted circular saws for large-scale pasture clearing operations, and small independent circular saw units mounted on rubber tires which are suitable for selective cutting in farm woodland. With one such unit a man felling trees and bucking logs can keep four or five other men busy in logging or wood-cutting operation. There are four or five types of explosive-splitting wedges or guns designed to break down low-grade logs which are to be made into cordwood or split posts. These have been used with varying degrees of success. There is a simple log-jack which lifts stems off of the ground so that they will not pinch the saw when they are being bucked. There is the so-called Swedish bow saw which is operated by hand but which cuts much faster than most ordinary hand crosscut saws.

The three million acres of woodland on farms is only half the story. There are another three million acres not now forested for which trees are probably the most suitable crop. Most of this land is a part of farms. Where it is associated with sufficient land of real agricultural value, it will undoubtedly remain in farm ownership. It should be developed as an integral part of the farms on which it occurs. The outlook for these areas is most hopeful. Experience has amply demonstrated that good management of existing woodland and investment in reformation will yield satisfactory returns to farmers.

Most farmers are not experienced in the management and development of farm woodlands, the use and marketing of forest products and the establishment of forest plantations. In order to provide on the ground assistance in planning such activities, the U. S. Forest service, the State Division of Forestry and the Agricultural Extension service cooperatively maintain district, project or farm foresters. If requested, the forester will go through the woods with the owner to determine whether or not there are trees which should be used or sold. If there are mature trees to market, he will help select and mark them. He will estimate the volume. He knows the markets: where the 1,200 sawmills in the state are; what they buy; where veneer logs, stave bolts, handle bolts, feltwood, pulpwood, piling, mine timbers, ties, fuel wood and many other forest products may be sold. He can suggest a long term plan for the management and improvement of woodland so that it will supply annual needs on the farm and wood crops to be harvested at frequent intervals. If reforestation of open land is a problem, he will suggest kinds and sizes of trees to plant and methods of planting and caring for plantations. His work in the field supplements that of the farm adviser and extension forester, who are unable alone to meet the expanding need for assistance in applying good forestry on Illinois farms.

Timber as a farm crop in Illinois is a basic resource which is becoming increasingly important. Whether it is used at home or sold for cash, it is adding materially to the income from farms. In the 1945 Agricultural Census, 118 farms were classified as forest farms because the major income on these farms came from the sale of forest products in that year.

NEW STAFF

On April 3, the Illini Board of Control announced the election of K. Robert Kern, Miriam Wrigley, and Arthur Howard as editor, woman's editor, and business manager, respectively. These positions are being vacated this June by Eldon Larson, Ruth Jaques, and Robert Corzine, who are graduating.

The new editor, Bob Kern, is from Pittsfield, Illinois, where he attended high school and was active in 4-H club, FFA, and Rural Youth activities. Bob returned to the campus last fall following two years in the service and is now a junior majoring in agricultural journalism. He has served three years on the editorial staff.

Miriam Wrigley, the new woman's editor, hails from Trivoli. Miriam has been an outstanding 4-H club member and this winter was one of the select few to attend National 4-H camp from Illinois. She is now a sophomore majoring in home economics and has served one year on the Agriculturist staff.

Arthur Howard, from Dundee, is taking over the business managership of the publication. Art spent two years at Blackburn college in Carlinville, in 1941 and 1942. After having spent two years in the service, Art transferred to the University where he is now a junior majoring in dairy production.

To the retiring staff we say, "congratulations on a job well done." To the new staff we wish the best of luck.

Plowboy Playboys (and gals)

By Miriam Wrigley and Bob Kern

Before a colorful backdrop depicting a large barn and surrounding open country, 1,100 couples clad in jeans and gingham, danced and laughed their way through this year's hilarious Plowboy Prom. This annual presentation of the combined talents of the Ag club and Home Ec club has become a major event of the year with the ags and sis-ags, as well as hundreds of their fellow students at the University.

In the prevailing rural atmosphere, Huff gymnasium lost its sedateness which usually reigns at formal dances and became for everyone, a building as informal as the provincial hayloft in which the keynote is have fun. Couples swayed to the pleasing lilt of the music of Del Courtney and his orchestra until tired and then tossing convention to the wind, plopped down onto the floor in the midst of the jostling crowd to catch their breath. The girls were decked out in dresses of every imaginable cotton fabric, adorned by corsages shaped by their escorts from a wide variety of vegetables.

A high spirit of revelry had been built up and shouts of joy greeted the announcement during the intermission that it was time to eat. Hastily arranging themselves in circles about the baskets, paper bags, and shoe boxes which the girls had stocked with picnic lunches, the hungry merry-makers devoured scores of ham and cheese sandwiches, leg upon leg of fried chicken, huge quantities of potato salad, and similar constituents. In place of dinner music, a touch of realism was added by a set of square-dancers from the Illini Union, who performed the complicated reels typical of the genuine hayloft frolic.

An affair of this sort wouldn't have been complete without a queen. The introduction of the ten finalists in the queen contest, by emcee Kent Ryan, set the wheels in motion and the southwest corridor of the gym was crowded for nearly an hour as the dancers pushed their way to the ballot box. When the announcement was made that the coronation was about to take place, those on the floor eagerly rushed for vantage points around the bandstand. On a triumphal fanfare, the throng opened a narrow aisle and the queen's party entered. With the court of honor, Betty Reynolds, Julann Brya, Mary Myrth Wallace, and Mary Annis Crawford, leading the procession, Ruth Jaques, queen-elect, was escorted to the bandstand by Hubert Wetzel, co-chairman of the Plowboy Prom. The crown, fashioned of radishes and turnips set in a base of broccoli, was placed upon the queen's brow. Other attendants to the queen were four couples chosen as best-dressed in keeping with the theme of the dance. These were Melva Baughman and Ray Ponton, Marion Wells and Jane Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harker, and Marilyn Spero and Stan Myers.



Queen Ruth Jaques and Court. Left to right: Betty Reynolds, Julann Brya, Miss Jaques, Mary Annis Crawford, and Mary Myrth Wallace

The patrons' lounge was an ingenious arrangement of cattle stanchions which added another rustic touch. Our city cousins made themselves known with their questions of "what are those?"

The 1947 Plowboy Prom was ably directed by Esther Siemen and Hubert Wetzel, co-chairmen of the dance. Their committees, whose efforts made the prom a striking success, were headed by Louise Rice and Bill Hooks, decorations; Lynette Phelps and Eldon Larson, programs; Lila Jeanne Athey and Bill Maddox, tickets; Doris Neuman and Ken Elliott, publicity; and Miriam Wrigley and Kent Ryan, queens.



Committee heads in full Prom regalia

NEWS OF OUR NEWEST ALUMNI

News concerning the most recent graduates of the college of agriculture is being received daily by the college. As in past years, many of these February grads have entered the fields of farming, homemaking, extension work, teaching, research, and farm management. The following information has been received:

Thomas W. Anderson is teaching vocational agriculture at Maple Park, Illinois.

Robert Bacon is farming with his father at Roseville.

Gerald E. Baxter is operating a large livestock and grain farm for Mackay and Mackay at Mt. Carroll, Illinois.

William C. Bettenhausen is doing graduate work in agricultural economics.

Albert D. Bohlen is working at the Home Insulation company in Champaign.

Jack B. Claar is continuing work in agricultural economics in the graduate school.

Leo V. Curtin is an assistant in animal husbandry at the University.

Robert E. Drake is farming with his brother, David Drake, at Beason, Illinois.

Richard W. Frach is doing graduate work in agriculture at the University.

Andrew B. Gaydos is continuing his dairy technology studies.

Kenneth W. Gordon is farming at Blue Mound, Illinois.

Glenn H. Gordon, Jr., is assistant farm adviser of Christian county.

John F. Hahn is doing graduate work in agronomy.

Andrew H. Harris is assistant farm adviser for McLean county.

Zealy M. Holmes is manager of the Holmes Hybrid Seed Corn company at Edelstein, Illinois.

Loren E. Keefer is teaching vocational agriculture at Ridge Farm, Illinois.

Edward E. Luse is doing farm management work for the Doane Agriculture service of St. Louis.

Ellsworth A. Netherton is field representative for the Pet Milk company at Charlotte, Mich.

Elias Paul is working in the commodity outlook research department of the commercial research division of Swift and company at Union Stockyards, Chicago.

Clifford R. Shannon is working in the soil testing laboratory of the Champaign County Farm Bureau.

Lyman D. Shaw is working for the Farm Service company of Shelby county.

Howard J. Stevenson is the assistant farm adviser (for youth) in McLean county.

Howard E. Taylor is farming near Hanna City, Illinois.

Robert N. Vogen is teaching vocational agriculture at Marengo high school, Marengo, Illinois.

Floyd S. Walker is farming near Gibson City.

Fred Weas is doing graduate work in agronomy.

Delmar F. Wilken has an assistantship in agricultural economics and is also attending graduate school.

Roy Will is assistant farm adviser of Iroquois county at Watseka.

Helen Hawthorne, Ruth Johnston, and Bernice Mueller are teaching vocational home economics at Granville, Georgetown, and Buckley, respectively.

Ann Hoefle who also majored in vocational home economics is married and will live in Minnesota.

Virginia Kimet, a textile and clothing major, is serving an apprenticeship with Carson, Pirie, Scott preparatory to becoming an assistant buyer.

Wanda Sward, Galesburg, is now home adviser in Madison county, Edwardsville, Illinois.

Ruth Willey, a graduate in general home economics, will live in Honolulu, Hawaii, where her husband is attending the University of Hawaii.

Dorothy Yakeley Baeur, a graduate in foods and nutrition, is working with Miss Evelyn Smith here at the University of Illinois.

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Quality of Bacteria	Pounds Protein per Ton		
	Alfalfa Hay	Clover Whole Plants	Soy Beans Seed
Strain A	331	166	750
Strain B	280	94	686
Gain for better strain	51	72	64

(Wis. Res. Bul. 72; Keeney, Soil Sci.; The Urbana Laboratories)

Prepared only by

The Urbana Laboratories

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Farm equipment placed in this roomy, well-constructed storage shed will receive thorough protection from snow and rain. The taller building at left is the farm shop.

"Preventive Maintenance Pays"

That's the title of a 40-minute sound slide film being distributed now by International Harvester that demonstrates just *how* Preventive Maintenance can pay. It's available to departments of agricultural engineering.

Just what goes to make up Preventive Maintenance when it's applied to farm equipment? One definition might be "the proper storage, care, operation and adjustment of equipment resulting in better performance and longer life." Certainly it's only sound business and good farm management to extend the investment in machinery this practical way.

"Preventive Maintenance Pays" covers the jobs that are necessary to carry out PM on the farm, focusing attention on off-season storage and correct preparation of tractors for their seasonal work.

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INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER

Former Editor to R.I.S.C.

Charles L. Norton '40, of Neponset, was recently appointed associate professor of dairy production at the Rhode Island State college, and associate research professor of dairy production at the Rhode Island agricultural experiment station.

Mr. Norton was a former editor of the Illinois Agriculturist. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1940, receiving the highest scholarship award in agriculture, the Gamma Sigma Delta gold watch.

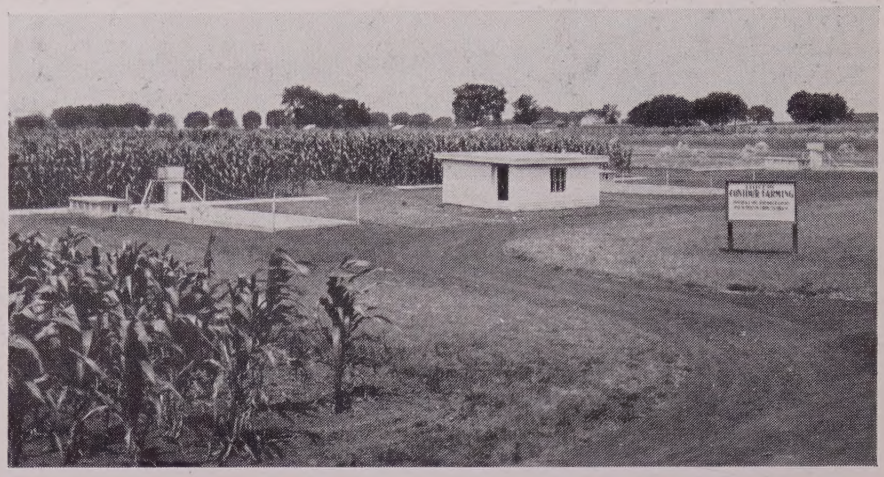
After graduation, Mr. Norton held an assistantship in the animal husbandry department at Cornell university, and received his doctor's degree in 1944.

National Home Ec Club

Miriam Wrigley, woman's editor-elect of the Agriculturist, has been nominated for an office in the college club division of the American Home Economics association. Miss Wrigley is competing against 12 other candidates from 13 provinces in the United States. She represents the seventh province (Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana). Home Economics clubs in all the provinces will elect a national council from the 13 and officers will be named in the council after election.

Miss Wrigley and Sue Robinson represented the University of Illinois home economics club at the "Seventh Province Workshop" in February.

Raindrops: Friend or Enemy of Illinois Farmers?



Raindrops as they come from the heavens can bring great joy or great sorrow to the farmers of Illinois. They are capable of making him rich or putting him and his family in rags.

The department of agronomy in cooperation with C. A. Van Doren, project supervisor for the U. S. Soil Conservation service, has recently completed tests showing the effects of rainfall on the soil.

When raindrops strike well protected soil, they penetrate the soil profile and are stored for later use in crop production or as a source of water for family and livestock. However, when these same raindrops strike a run-down, intensively cultivated soil may run from the farm in gushing rills and gullies.

Few people realize the tremendous force of falling raindrops. They are like miniature bombs which descend from the skies and form craters in the soil. Photographs show raindrops striking bare soil with an explosive effect which scatters and disperses fine soil particles. The silt particles may wash off the fields or fill the soil pores, thus preventing water from being absorbed.

The hazard of soil erosion is increased by the occurrence and intensity of rainfall. In general, the rainfall from the

(Continued on Page 10)

THE ILLINOIS POLLED HEREFORD ASSOCIATION

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Ten million eggs! Three quarters of a million chicks, many pedigreed, shipped to 22 states and several foreign countries! That is the number Hobart and Russell Creighton, Warsaw, Indiana, will sell this year from 60,000 White Leghorns housed last fall. Not always so large, their business has grown from a few hundred quality chicks bought on credit in 1925. Their progressive breeding, management and marketing program has so influenced the poultry industry in Kosciusko County, Indiana, that it today ranks first nationally in the production of market eggs. Their leadership extends to state and national affairs. Hobart Creighton, elected to eight terms in the House of Representatives of the Indiana General Assembly, served the last three as Speaker. He is President of the Poultry and Egg National Board. To keep his appointments, he flies his own plane. For their numerous contributions to the betterment of agriculture, both Hobart and Russell Creighton were among the first to be elected to membership in the Champion Farmers Association of America.

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RAINDROPS . . .

(Continued from Page 8)

thunderstorms in mid-summer is more intense and capable of producing greater damage than rains occurring during other seasons of the year. This is true because at this time seedbeds are being prepared, inter-tilled crops are being cultivated, and the surface of the soil is well pulverized and divided into fine soil particles.

On the agronomy south farm, the soil losses in June, over a six-year period, were 77 per cent of the total yearly loss on the contoured plots. On the non-contoured plots, the losses in June were 63 per cent of the yearly loss.

The most striking example of the influence of an individual storm on soil losses was recorded in 1946. One rain of two and a quarter inches on June 19, 1946, caused about 90 per cent of the total annual loss of soil from the plots.

Recent studies indicate that soil losses increased at an accelerated rate over a ten-year period when the land was in continuous corn production. At the end of the ten-year period, six inches of soil had been removed and the corn yield had dropped from 60 to less than 10 bushels per acre. Organic matter had decreased by one-half of the original content.

This same degree of soil loss by rainfall has been occurring on many Illinois fields geared to high wartime production. To stop this accelerated rate of erosion, our agricultural production must be converted from wartime to peacetime basis.

In changing to peacetime production, it must be remembered that raindrops have been a very destructive force on many farms. The use of meadow crops and fewer cultivated crops in rotation will insure prosperity to farmers in the future. Use of limestone and fertilizers are essential to insure high crop yields. Terracing and contouring will reduce the length of slope and hold the raindrops from running away. Results obtained by these methods have proved that raindrops when controlled can be a friend of Illinois farmers.

Garden Plots

The University of Illinois cooperative garden plots, which are beginning their fifth year of operation, have been assigned to the University community for the 1947 vegetable growing season. The majority of the plots were rented to the veteran student families who were given preference this year.

This garden project which was begun in 1942 as a part of the national victory garden program, includes 378 plots which measure approximately 25 to 75 feet and rent for $3 a season. Each plot is capable of supplying the needs of a family of four. In the past some successful gardeners have grown large yields of crops so that they were able to can extensively in addition to having an adequate fresh supply.

In the spring, before being given to the gardening families, the plots are given an application of fertilizer and a thorough seedbed preparation by plowing, discing, and harrowing. The plots then are staked out and the prospective mud-dobbers are given free rein for the season.

Heretofore, the University staff and employees have had preference in the assignment of the plots. However, this year the committee gave the student veterans with families first call and then allowed the remainder of the tracts to the U of I community and public. The main reason for this is that earlier this year, when an attempt was made to discontinue the project, the clamor set up by the veteran families was so great that the gardening program is being continued for another year at their insistence.

This cooperative project is being directed by a college of agriculture committee that includes: M. J. Dorsey, head of the horticulture department, chairman; J. L. Edmonds, head of the animal husbandry department; and W. W. Yapp, professor of dairy cattle husbandry. The chief responsibility for the physical direction of the plots has been taken by J. Elmo Smith, who stakes the plots, and Charles Ogden, who prepares them. Miss Louise Mosgrove, of the horticulture staff, is in charge of the assignment.

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4-H CAMPING PROGRAM

By Ronald Elliott

Summer is here—well—almost anyway. And with summer comes thoughts of camping, swimming, meeting friends, and soaking up plenty of old man solar's "cure-all" for accumulated winter ailments. Four-H girls and boys throughout the state are looking forward to summer camps where routine chores can be laid aside for a few days, and where they can participate in well-rounded activities and fun with fellow 4-H'ers.

To provide an opportunity for as many girls and boys to attend camp as possible, an extensive state-wide camping program is being planned for this summer. Numerous state, district, and county camps are to be held. Also of interest, is the fact that four districts are to be formed in the state. Each is to have a central camp for its district and these camps will be available for 4-H club and Rural Youth groups. The sites for two of these camps have already been chosen.

District Camp Sites

The east-central district camp is to be held at the State 4-H Memorial camp on the Allerton estate near Monticello. This site was deeded to the University by Mr. Allerton and is to be developed and maintained for 4-H club and related activities. It contains spacious grounds on the beautifully landscaped estate near the Sangamon river and will provide a perfect setting and atmosphere for a camp. Memorial camp is also to be used as a state camp and as an integrating point for 4-H activities throughout the state.

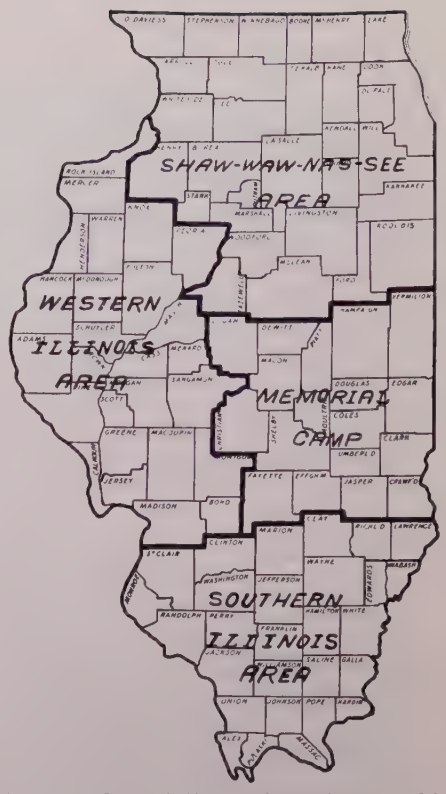
Camp Shaw-waw-nas-see, located near the Kankakee river in Kankakee county, is to be the camp for Northern Illinois. About 50 acres of land located along Rock creek was contributed as a 4-H camp site by the Public Service company of Northern Illinois. A temporary "tent" camp was used last summer, and now construction of permanent camp buildings is under way.

Location of camp sites for the Western and Southern areas are to be chosen soon. Farm and home advisers are to have major responsibility in selecting these sites, with help from the state executive committee.

Fund Raising

Fund-raising for these district camps has been under way and is now to be centered in one central agency. However, if they wish, donors may designate the camp or camps where they wish their gift to go. Money already collected for Shaw-waw-nas-see and Memorial camp will remain in the fund for which it was contributed.

Several counties have each contributed as much as $1,500 for Memorial camp. This gives them, and other counties sending in that amount before January 1, 1948, the privilege of naming a cabin for their county.



Dates for the state camps this summer have been selected. The Leisurecraft and Counselor's camp for camp advisers will be held at East Bay camp from May 26-31. The junior leadership camp will be from July 21 to 26 at East Bay, while

(Continued on Page 14)

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4-H CAMPS . . .

(Continued from Page 12)

the Rural Youth camp will be held there, also, during the week of September 7 to 13. The State fair, of great interest to all 4-H'ers, is to be held this year from August 8 to 17.

In addition, numerous county camps and so-called district camps, composed of two or more counties, will be held during the months of June, July, and August.

From the appearance of the state-wide plans for camps, it looks as if all 4-H boys and girls who can find time will be able to attend a 4-H camp this summer.

Rural Housing Research Planned

What kind of farm house is best suited to Cornbelt conditions in general and to Illinois conditions in particular? This and a host of other problems in regard to rural housing will be studied in the near future by the experiment stations in the north central states. Serving as chairman of the Farm House committee is Deane G. Carter, professor of farm structures of the department of agricultural engineering. Also serving on this committee is Keith Hinchcliff, assistant professor of agricultural engineering. Cooperating in the projects will be the agricultural engineering and home economics departments of the states and the United States department of agriculture.

A study in cooperation with the USDA has already been established at Illinois and information has been compiled and prepared preparatory to publication. A bulletin on housing is scheduled to be circulated in early summer. The Farm Journal, national agricultural magazine, has contributed $1,000 for a specific study of rural house planning.

The general requirements for rural housing are known, but a large amount of research needs to be done in ways to improve farm family living quarters, the setting of the farm home in relation to the rest of the farmstead, and the various business and storage aspects of the farm house. Designing houses that fit the farm, and yet are suitable to the farm family, is one of the problems.

Colleges of the North Central region cooperating in housing studies include Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

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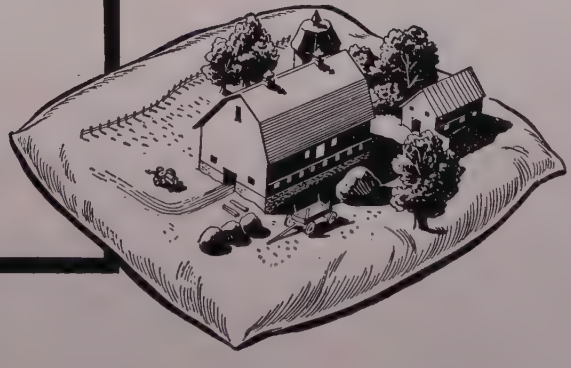
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Lesson on a Cushion



When—in future years—you have to decide how much of your cereal crops to feed to livestock, remember this. The surplus you feed to livestock—after humans are fed—acts as a cushion against drastic changes in the grain market. The cushion will vary in thickness as supply and demand change, but as long as it is there, you have some protection from great price fluctuations. Marketing your crops through livestock is sound farm economics in another way, too. The more animals you keep in your feed lot, the more productive your land will be then—and in years to come.

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Around the Corner ON GREEN STREET

A MAN who works in the wheat all day knows what it takes to place bread on the tables of the world. After he has pitched bundles all afternoon, he comes in from the field, tired, hot and sweaty; he shakes the chaff out of his pants and digs beards out of the back of his neck. He sloshes his head in a pail of cold water, dries himself on the roller towel, looks out over his fields; and says to himself—"Well, the blankety-blank wheat's in for the year." — from Farm Quarterly.

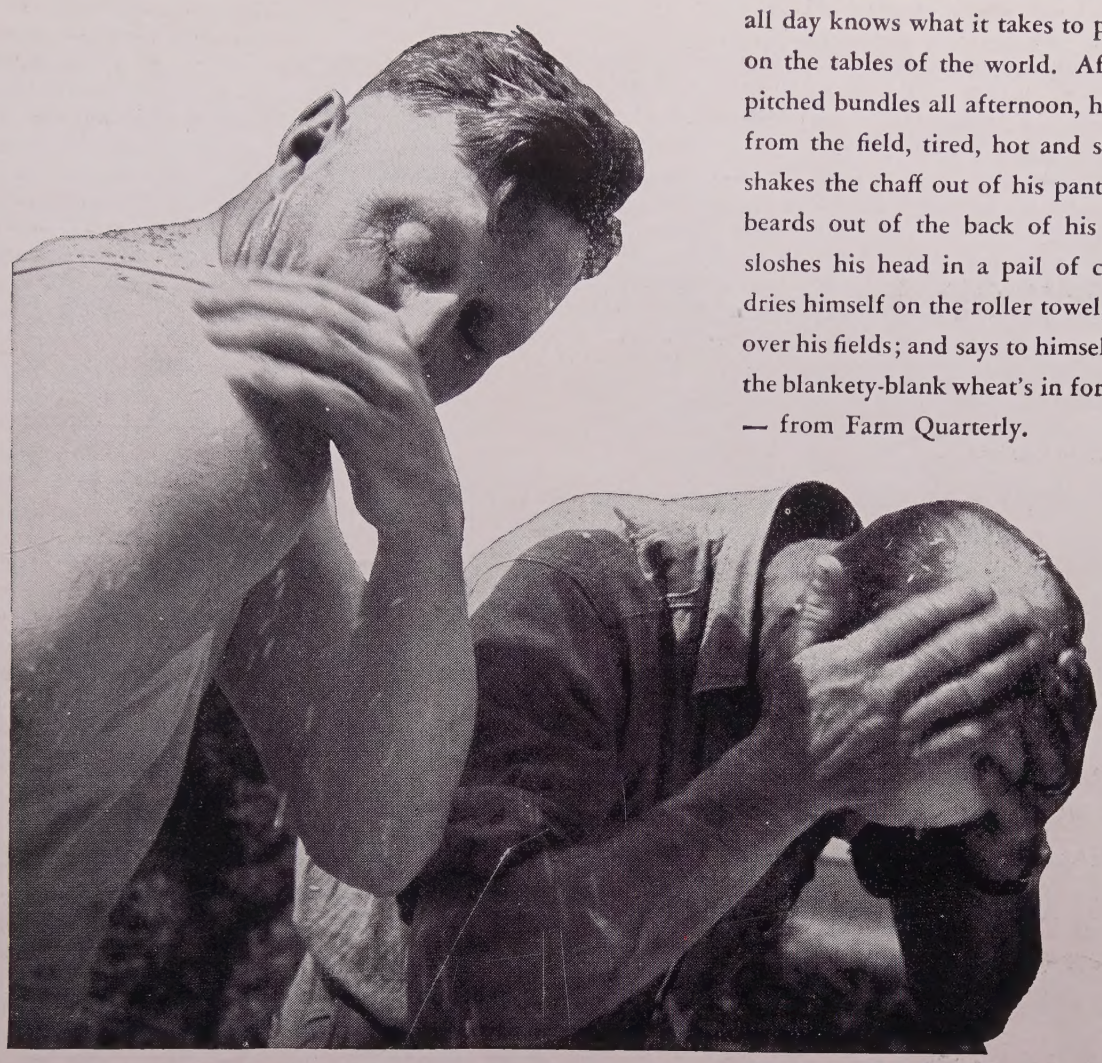
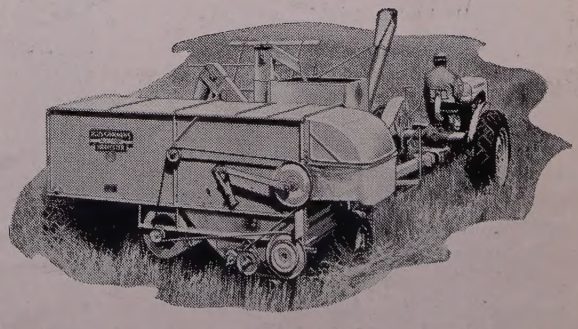


Photo Courtesy Farm Quarterly

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Most every farmer knows the above experience all too well. That is . . . unless he has discovered, as thousands have, that one man can harvest grain or seed crops sitting comfortably on the tractor seat, out of the chaff . . . that straw in the field can be handled with ordinary hay tools . . . that lodged, weedy crops can be saved where a binder would be helpless and tangled grain a nightmare.

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Matrix Awards Given

The Illini Board of Control has given Matrix awards to the following staff of the Agriculturist. From the editorial staff: John Albrecht, Chuck Nicholson, Royce Hinton, Don Duvick, Rose Ellen Disbrow, Mary Hansen, Betty Reynolds, Betty Johnson, Jean Neese, Harold Guither, Julia Stahl, Earl Urish, Bob Kern, Margy Woodburn, Mary Argenbright, Ruth Jaques, Eldon Larson, and Esther Siemen.

Awards to the business staff: Art Howard, John Irwin, Merle LeSage, Doris Klinefelter, Frank Rolf, Miriam Wrigley, Paul Vogen, Ross Hostetter, Bill Zumwalt, Jim Whitcomb, Roger Hemken, and Robert Corzine.

Scholarship Awards

Betty Jane Sanders, Alton, senior in floriculture at the University of Illinois, has been given the first annual W. Atlee Burpee cash award of $100, announces S. W. Hall, chief in the floriculture division. The honor was based on scholarship, practical experience and interest in horticultural work.

George R. Carlisle, agricultural senior from Carthage, was presented a $300 cash award by the Borden company as the outstanding agricultural student who qualified by having two or more dairy courses. The recipient of the award has had a notable record in the University college of agriculture attaining a scholarship average of 4.835.

CO-EDS . . .

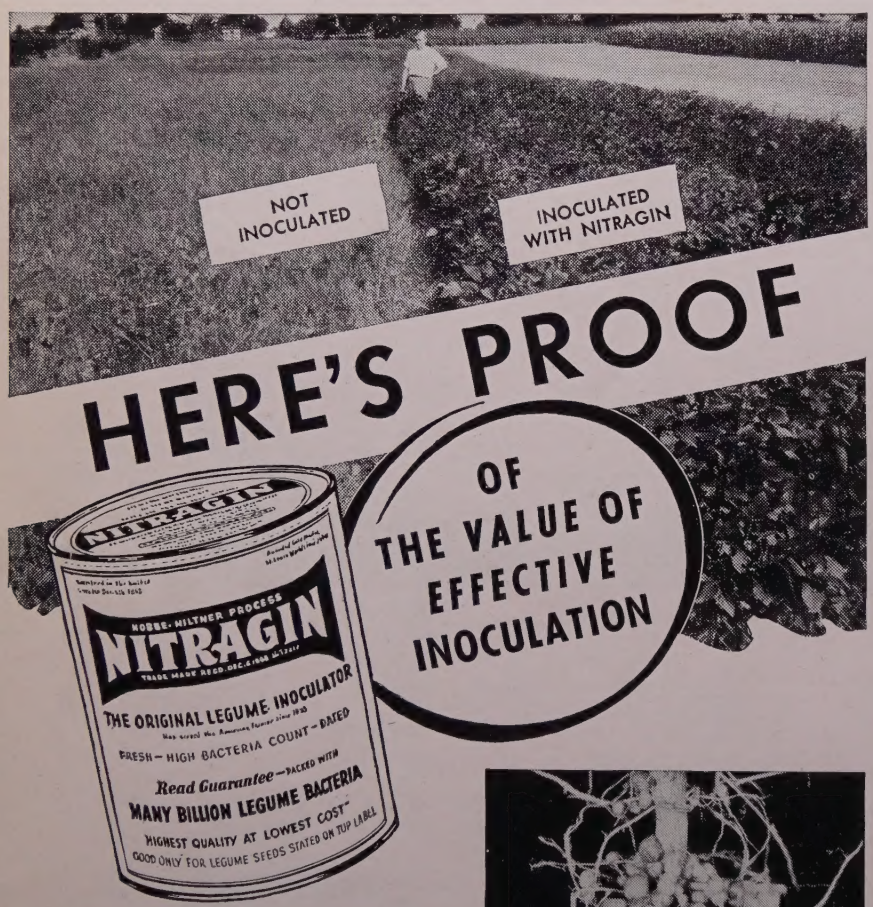
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design and draping. Each student makes several original fashion plates on which she includes a small drawing of the source of her ideas. A dress form for each girl is then made, on which the student drapes a pattern in muslin for the garment she has fashioned. The final material is cut from the muslin pattern.

Added to the curriculum this semester is home economics 55, a course in fashion analysis. A study is made of fashion in its relation to the production and the distribution of fashion goods. As a special project, the girls are planning a trip to Chicago to visit dress manufacturers and to speak with executives in industry. Individual projects include arranging window displays in Champaign stores, preparing radio skits, and presenting a fashion show, modeling ensembles made in clothing courses.

The position openings for graduates in textiles and clothing are ever increasing. Manufacturers and retailers are looking for college-trained women in this field to fill responsible positions in apparel designing and merchandising. Among the attractive jobs openings are buyers and assistant buyers, fashion coordinators, fabric stylists, and laboratory textile technicians.

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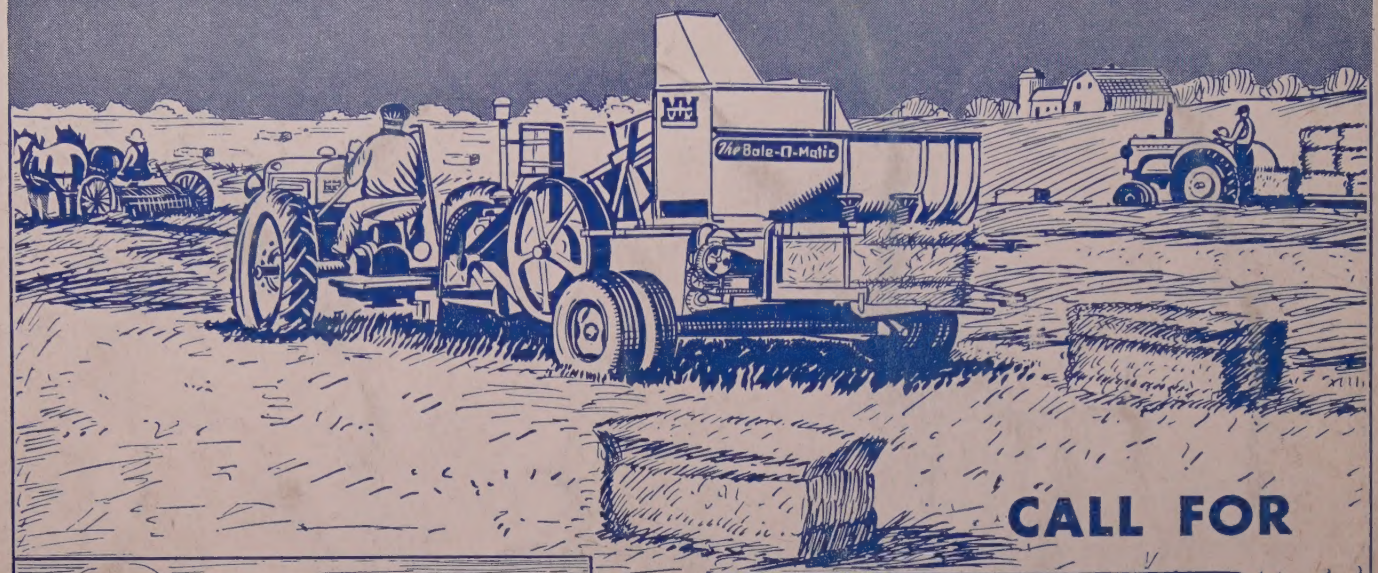
Endurance becomes even more important if you plan on custom work after your own harvest is finished. Freedom from delay means extra income and satisfied neighbors. So keep your eye on Case equipment. Look to it for extra performance and higher rewards from *your own* farm business. J. I. Case Co., Racine, Wis.

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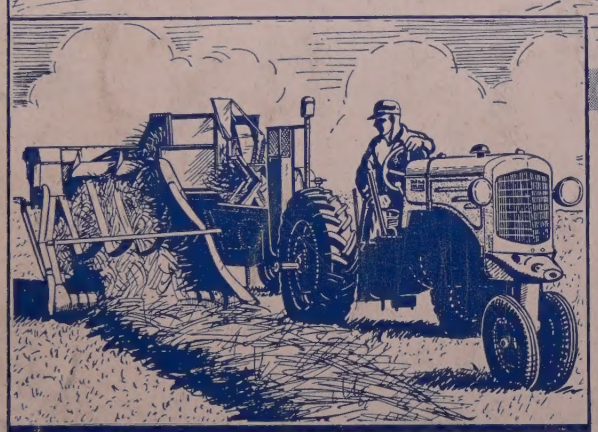
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